

AP 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



In re application of: Johnson et al. )  
Application No.: 10/623,791 )  
Filed: July 21, 2003 )  
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE )  
Examiner: Ralph A. Lewis  
Art Unit: 3732  
Confirmation. Number 6098  
September 11, 2006

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

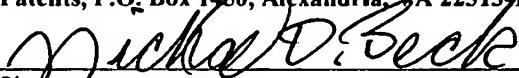
Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Consideration of the following amendment and remarks is requested. A Final Office Action was issued on August 28, 2006. This response is being filed within two months of the mailing date so no fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is requested to provide any extension of time that may be required and is authorized to deduct any associated fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

**Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 11, 2006.

  
Signature

Michael D. Beck  
Typed or printed name of person of signing Certificate

*PLEASE  
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